

# Liberty Abby Zhang Procurement Intern | Renewable Energy Group





# **ABOUT LIBERTY**

- Liberty Utilities is a diversified energy and water company and a global leader in renewable generation.
- Liberty Utilities's parent company is Algonquin Power & Utilities Corp.







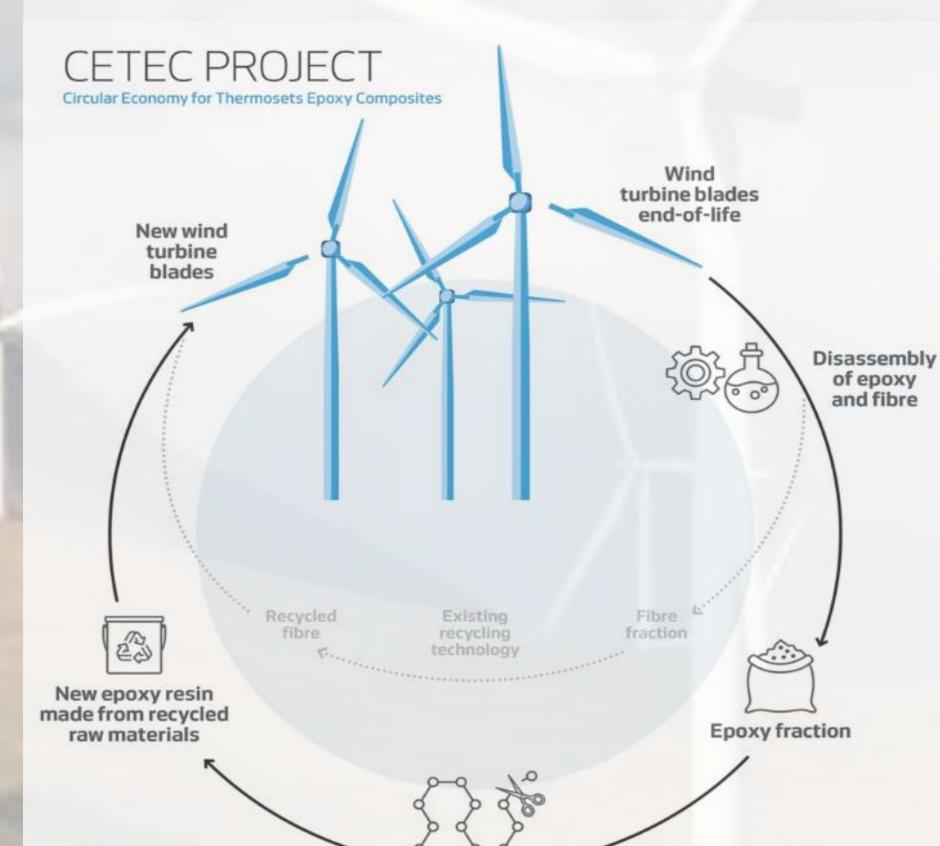
Renewable Energy Group

## KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

- Lead and support various solar & wind procurement RFPs (Request for Proposal), including vendor communication, contract management and negotiation.
- Research on sustainability of solar and wind energy, supply chain impact, and industry best practices. Mainly focus on recyclability and circularity of wind turbines.
- Work with the Sustainability Office on the vendor sustainability survey.
- Develop an interactive excel-based tool for estimating potential solar and wind project costs.
- Research on solar & wind energy raw materials and freight pricing and market trends.

# SUSTAINABILITY OF WIND TURBINES

- WTG (Wind Turbine Generators) is 85% recyclable now, with blades recyclability to tackle
- Blade recycling technology exists!
- But it's cheaper to dispose in landfill since:
  - Lack of regulatory pressure
  - Market incentives
- The Sustainable Blade Waste Management Hierarchy is shown on the right.





Market leaders such as Vestas have committed to WTG circularity as a part of their Net Zero strategy.

## MAIN PROJECTS & INITIATIVES

- Wind & solar projects: was responsible for communicating, selecting, and negotiating with 15+ vendors on various utility-size rooftop and groundmount solar and wind projects.
- Renewable natural gas: initiated and completed initial RFP.
- Integrated sustainability considerations in vendor selection process.

## DO YOU KNOW?

#### Policy

 Antidumping and Countervailing Duties (AD/CVD) on Solar Imports from Southeast Asia has created worrisome uncertainties and set back solar energy development.

## Technology

The rotor diameter of wind turbines is 127.5 meters in 2021 (418 feet), grown 600% since 1998-1999.

## Reliability

Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) is forecasted to grow at 16% annually in the next 8 years due to burgeoning demand in solar energy development

## Affordability

Despite the recent disruptions in the global supply chain, solar PV capital cost has decreased by over 85% since 1995.

# KEY TAKEAWAYS

- The renewable energy industry has a very bright future, driven by strong demand in green energy transition to combat climate change.
- The transition requires collaboration between businesses, all levels of governments, the scientific communities, as well as individuals.
- We also need to address the impact of the renewable energy supply chain on the environment and the communities.